UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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10/731,970	12/09/2003	Allen K. Hawley	SVL920030037US1	6431

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KONRAD RAYNES & VICTOR, LLP
ATTN: IBM54
315 SOUTH BEVERLY DRIVE, SUITE 210
BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90212

EXAMINER
WEI, ZHENG

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>13 November 2007</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.　　　2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-21</u> is/are pending in the application.

　　4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-21</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>09 December 2003</u> is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

　　Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

　　Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

　　a)☐ All　b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

　　　1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

　　　2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

　　　3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

　　* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11/13/2007; 1/23/2008</u>.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____ .

Remarks

1.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since

this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the

fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous

Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's

submission filed on 11/13/2007 has been entered.

2.   This office action is in response to the amendment filed on 11/13/2007.

3.   Claims 2-5 have been amended.

4.   Claims 19-21 have been added

5.   Claims 1-21 remain pending and have been examined.

Response to Arguments

6.   Applicant's arguments filed on 11/13/2007 have been fully considered but they

are not persuasive.

- At pages 7-9, the Applicant submits that <u>Shulman</u> does not disclose the claim

  requirement of in response to determining that token on which the cursor is

  positioned does not match one of the syntax statements generating proposals

  from the cursor position. The Applicant specifically points out that there is no

  disclosure in the example of Shulman as the Examiner cited to generate

  proposed statements in response to determining that the statement

"mytext.font" or some variation if it does not match syntax (Remarks. P.8, second paragraph). However, the Examiner respectfully disagrees. It should be noted that the plain language of said limitation/condition to generate proposals in claim 1 is "<u>does not match one of the syntax statements</u>"[emphasis added]. As Shulman disclosed in Fig.4, "mytext" (item 211) is declared as an instant/object of standard class "TextBox" ("Dim mytext As TextBox"). The syntax statements/requirements to access/reference class members of "mytext" are defined in the "TextBox" ("mytext.font", "mytext.fontBold" ...). In order to access/reference the class member, e.g. "font", the token has to match the legal syntax statement which is "mytext.font". As the example in Fig.4, item 210 "mytext.f" is an incomplete form and is not a legal syntax format. Because it does not match any of the syntax statements defined in "TextBox". Thus, the example of <u>Shulman</u> generates proposals (item 220) from the cursor position with a list of suggestions. Therefore, Shulman does disclose said limitation in claim 1 as the Applicant argued in the Remarks.

Claim Objections

7.   Claim 21 is objected to because of the following informalities:

Claims 21 is a system claim and should be depended on claim 13 in stead of claim 7 which is a method claim.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

8. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

9. Claims 19-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Claims 19-21: The claims recite limitation about determining whether an end of the program instruction statement is reached. However, the specification only defines some special characters to delimit the <u>syntax statement</u> (paragraph [0049]), but does not disclose how to determining the end of the <u>program instruction statement</u> is reached. As the Applicant disclosed at Remark, the support document should be found on at paragraphs [0060]-[0061] (p.9, section 3, "These added requirements are disclosed on at least paras. 60 and 61 of [Shulman] specification"). However, the specification only discloses how to parse the syntax statement to determining whether it matches the user input statement (program instruction statement), but not discloses how to determining the end of program instruction statement (paragraph [0060], "or until the end of the user-entered partial statement is reached"). Therefore, the person in the art is not

clear how to delimit the end of program instruction statement and further to be

able to determine the end of program statement is reached.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

10.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

11.   Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by

Shulman (Shulman et al., US 6,026,233)

Claim 1:

Shulman discloses an article of manufacture for use in a computer system for

providing assistance to a programmer writing computer programming code, said

assistance comprising suggested candidates responsive to a parsing of a partial

program instruction statement, said article of manufacture comprising a

computer-useable storage medium having a computer program embodied in said

medium which causes the computer system to execute operations comprising:

- parsing a partial program instruction statement into tokens (see for example,

    Fig.13A, steps 1331, 1331, "Parse Program Statement Into Tokens" and

    related text);

- determining whether the tokens match one of a plurality of syntax statements (see for example, Fig.13A, step 1334, "Locate Procedure ID Token" and related text; also see col.17, lines 19-25, "examining each token in the token list");

- moving a cursor positioned on one of the tokens for which the match is determined to a following token in response to determining that the token matches one of the syntax statement (see for example, Fig.13A, step 1336 and step 1338 "Generate Assist Window For List or Constant Value" and related text; also see fig.4 and Fig.5 about element 202 (cursor position));

- in response to determining that the token on which the cursor is positioned does not match one of the syntax statement, generating proposals from the cursor position (see for example, Fig.4, item 210, 211, 202 and 220 about "mytext.f"; also see Fig.13B steps 1337 and 1370 and related text; also see col.17, lines 40-45, ""the present argument token is not a symbol or other object entity that can be resolved, the processing continues at step 1370 because a default informational menu assist window that contains the procedure call argument list is all that can be displayed(proposal)); and

- providing proposals to append to the partial program instruction statement to a user responsive to both the parsing of the program and the parsing of the partial program instruction statement (see for example, Fig.5, elements 510 and 210 and related text, selected proposal (font) has been appended to partial program (mytext));

Claim 2:

Shulman further discloses the article of manufacture of claim 1 wherein the

method further comprises: proposing an identified variable as a proposal

responsive to a verb of the partial program instruction statement (see for

example, Fig.13B, step 1355, "Determine Object Type and Member Return

Type", step 1357 "Generate Assist Window with Member List" and related text).

Claim 3:

Shulman also discloses the article of manufacture of claim 1 wherein the method

further comprises: proposing an identified variable as a proposal responsive to a

variable type of the variable (see for example, col.4, lines46-48, "assist window

includes any finite list of previously declared entities and/or entity type", also see

Fig.13B, step 1355, "Determine Object Type and Member Return Type")

Claim 4:

Shulman also disclose the article of manufacture of claim 1 wherein the method

further comprises: proposing an identified variable as a proposal responsive to a

verb of the partial program instruction statement (see for example, Fig.13B, step

1355, "Determine Object Type and Member Return Type", step 1357 "Generate

Assist Window with Member List" and related text) or responsive to a variable

type of the variable (see for example, col.4, lines46-48, "assist window includes

any finite list of previously declared entities and/or entity type", also see Fig.13B,

step 1355, "Determine Object Type and Member Return Type").

Claim 5:

Shulman further discloses the article of manufacture of claim 1 wherein the

method further comprises: proposing an identified variable as a proposal

responsive to a portion of the program containing the partial program instruction

statement (see for example, Fig.7, element 740 and related text for proposing an

previous declared variable for the procedure "MyProc")

Claim 6:

Shulman also discloses the article of manufacture of claim 1 wherein the parsing

of the program and the parsing of the partial program instruction statement are

performed according to a user-selected programming language dependent file

selected from a plurality of programming language dependent files (see for

example, col.5, lines 44-46, "local program definition", "global library definition",

also see, col.7, lines 6-9, "the present invention can be implemented within any

programming language")

Claim 19:

Shulman also discloses the article of manufacture of lciam1, wherein the

operations further comprise:

- determining whether an end of the program instruction statement is reached; (see for example, Fig.3, item 212 and related text; also see col.8, lines 23-36); and

- in response to determining the end of the program instruction statement is reached generating proposals (see for example, Fig.3, items 212, 220 and related text; also see col.8, lines 23-36)

Claims 7-12 and 20:

Claims 7-12 and 20 are the exactly the same methods that are used by claimed article of manufacture for providing assistance to a programmer writing computer programming code as addressed in claims 1-6 above respectively. Therefore, as all claimed limitations have been address and/or set forth and the references teach all the limitations of claims 1-6, they also anticipate the claims 7-12 (see for example, col.19, line29 –col.20, line 26).

Claims 13-18 and 21:

Claims 13-18 and 21 are computer system version of the claimed article of manufacture, wherein all claimed limitation for providing a code assist function have been addressed and/or set forth in claims 1-6 and 19 above respectively. Therefore they also would have been obvious in view of Shulman's teachings. (see for example, Fig.1 computer system and related text, and also see col.5, lines 56-67, description of hardware system for generating statement).

Conclusion

12.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

13.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zheng Wei whose telephone number is (571) 270-1059 and Fax number is (571) 270-2059. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 8:00-15:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tuan Q. Dam can be reached on (571) 272-3695. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature of relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the TC 2100 Group receptionist whose telephone number is 571- 272-1000.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

ZW

TUAN DAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER